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**DEC 12 2005**

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Application of :  
Howard L. Operowsky, et al. :  
Application No. 09/676,598 :  
Filed: September 29, 2000 :  
Attorney Docket No. [BOC9-2000-0005US1] :

**ON PETITION**

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed October 14, 2005, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to reply in a timely manner to the final Office action mailed August 26, 2004, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of three (3) months. No extensions of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) were obtained. Accordingly, the application became abandoned at midnight on November 26, 2004.

The petition satisfies the requirements of 37 CFR 1.137(b) in that petitioner has supplied (1) the reply in the form of an Amendment and a Request for Continued Examination (RCE); (2) the petition fee of \$1500; and (3) the required statement of unintentional delay have been received. Accordingly, the petition filed October 14, 2005 is accepted as having been unintentionally delayed.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3229.

The application matter is being forwarded to Technology Center 2600, Art Unit 2636 for processing the Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114 filed with the instant petition.

*Retta Williams*

Retta Williams  
Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions